

Mt Evelyn RSL News



Volume 7, Issue 5, Summer

A Sub-Branch of the Returned and Services League of Australia



RSL SUPPORTS KIDS FOOTBALL TEAM

2017 Meeting Dates

Fri Oct 20th
Fri Nov 17th
Fri Dec 15th

*The Mt Evelyn RSL
Meetings are held on
the third Friday of
each month at
7.30pm at the:*

Mt Evelyn RSL

Clubrooms

Behind: Hardy House
49 Birmingham Rd
Mt Evelyn Vic 3796

Ph: 9737 0767

Email:
mtevrsl@gmail.com

Postal Address:

PO Box 182
Mt Evelyn Vic 3796



Follow us on facebook



Above: Iain Townsley (left with his granddaughter), president of the Mt Evelyn RSL, Roger Boness, and Principal of the Birmingham Primary School, Trish Enzinger, with students holding the new football jumpers.

Last year our Piper, Iain Townsley, went along to watch his grandson play in a football match with Mt Evelyn's Birmingham Primary School and discovered that the team didn't have any football jumpers of their own and had to borrow some.

Iain then raised this issue with the club and the members were very quick to vote to agree to sponsor the team with football jumpers, carrying the school's logo and the RSL's logo.

This was then discussed with the school's sports teacher as to what the team needed and the Mt Evelyn Football Club were sought for advice before we then organised for the team jumpers to be made.

Recently both Iain and Roger were proud to attend a school assembly where they presented the team with their new jumpers. We now look forward to them winning next year's premiership proudly carrying the RSL logo.

Important Dates Coming Up:

Athenaeum Theatre, Lilydale

Members of the club
enjoy our quarterly
excursions to the ATC.

We will be doing the same
in 2016 so come along and
see:



**Six Dance Lesson in Six
Weeks
Sunday November 12th
@ 2.00pm**

**Tickets only \$10
for members
Contact Roger on
9737 0830**

11.00am CENTENARY SERVICES COMING UP:

26/9/17 – 11.00am

Lilydale War
Memorial

*Edward Duncan and
Hugh Comans*

30/9/17 – 11.00am

Lilydale War
Memorial

William Thurrowgood

1/10/17 – 11.00am

Lilydale War
Memorial

William Shell

4/10/17 – 10.00am

Mt Evelyn War
Memorial - *Claude
Pitt*

11.00am Wandin War
Memorial – *Charles*

Wallace

Lilydale War
Memorial – *Robert
Lawlor*

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Winter this year was bitterly cold despite being the driest winter for the last hundred years. Several RSL members have suffered injury and illness recently perhaps not attributed to the cold conditions but maybe the cold conditions were a contributing factor. We wish those members on our sick list a speedy recovery and urge all members to take care when negotiating stairs and other obstacles including home maintenance and every day chores. Also be mindful if you require assistance because of ill health – please contact us.

The Warburton community welcomed and supported The Yarra Valley and Outer Eastern Melbourne Vietnam Veterans Day parade and service held at Warburton on Sunday 13th August, 2017. Evidently it was the first community event to be staged in Warburton for the last 30 years – see the report later in the newsletter.

On Saturday 9th September, 2017 the Healesville RSL held a service to dedicate a restored "Willeys" military jeep. The jeep carried the red cross of the armed services medical corps which was appropriate to the town of Healesville as the army school of medical health was located in Healesville for many years until it was relocated to Portsea. Did you know – two national servicemen to serve at the School of Health in Healesville were – racing driver Peter Brock & actor Jack Thompson.

Lest We Forget

Regards,

Roger Boness – President, Mt Evelyn RSL

APPEAL OFFICER'S REPORT

Over the next few weeks the welfare account will come under some pressure due to various purchases for the benefits of ex-service people in need. You may be aware that monies collected for our Poppy Day 2016 and Anzac Day 2017 have to be spent before the end of the year otherwise we have to hand over all our hard earned funds that may be left to Head Office.

Help, help, help – once again we will be asking for your help in selling of Poppies towards the end of October. Thanks in advance everyone for being so generous with your time, hopefully the weather will be kind to us, and as usual we will be collecting at both Mt Evelyn IGA and Coles Supermarket in Mooroolbark. If you are able to assist at all in this important work, especially with selling, please contact me on: **9736 1551**

Regards, John Allwood – Appeals Officer

Membership Subs for 2017 – *Now Due!*

Full Members – open to ex-service personnel who were in the uniformed services for a period of six months or more. **\$25 a year**

Affiliated Members – open to those who have served with the emergency services or whose relatives were service personnel. **\$25 a year**

Now available – 3 year membership – only \$60.00

Tell us if you are over 80 years old

– you no longer have to pay your subs!

Send a cheque or money order to –

Mt Evelyn RSL, PO Box 182, Mt Evelyn

This year you can pay your subs online through
Internet banking – *just make sure to key in your name!*

Bendigo Bank

Title – RSL Mt Evelyn – General Account

BSB – 633-000 A/C NUMBER – 117020883



BETTY'S JOKE PAGE



Exercise for people over 60

Begin by standing on a comfortable surface, where you have plenty of room at each side.

With a 5-lb potato bag in each hand, extend your arms straight out from your sides and hold them there as long as you can. Try to reach a full minute, and then relax.

Each day you'll find that you can hold this position for just a bit longer. After a couple of weeks, move up to 10-lb potato bags.

Then try 50-lb potato bags and then eventually try to get to where you can lift a 100-lb potato bag in each hand and hold your arms straight for more than a full minute. (I'm now at this level.)

After you feel confident at that level, put a potato in each bag.

Grandpa was telling his young grandson what life was like when he was a boy.

"In the winter we'd ice skate on our pond. In the summer we could swim in the pond, and pick berries in the woods. We'd swing on an old tire my dad hung from a tree on a rope. And we had a pony we rode all over the farm."

The little boy was amazed, and sat silently for a minute. Finally he said, "Granddad, I wish I'd gotten to know you a lot sooner!"

Three seniors are out for a stroll.
One of them remarks, "It's windy."
Another replies, "No way. It's Thursday."
The last one says, "Me too. Let's have a cup of tea."

At 80 years old your bones get softer, but your arteries get harder, so it balances out.

Turning 80 means your favourite romantic song is probably now a laxative commercial.

As a senior citizen was driving down the highway when his mobile phone rang.

Answering, he heard his wife's urgent voice warning him, "Stan, I just heard on the news that there's a car going the wrong way on City Link. Please be careful!"

"Hell!" said Stan, "It's not just one car. It's hundreds of 'em!"

An 80 year old man goes to the doctor with his wife.

After the exam, the physician pulls the wife aside, and says, "I'm afraid your husband has an advanced stress disorder. He'll die very soon unless you do exactly as I tell you:

- Always be sweet and pleasant.
- Each morning, fix his favourite breakfast.
- Prepare delicious, healthy meals and snacks.
- Encourage him to nap whenever he wants.
- Don't let him do any chores.
- Under no circumstances nag him about anything.
- Give him regular massages.
- Make love at least twice a week.

Keep this up for a year, and he'll return to a state of near-perfect health for his age."

Later in the car, the husband asks his wife what the doctor told her.

She replies, "Honey, he said you're going to die soon."

WWI MEDAL DONATION



Henry James Udall



Left: A photo of Henry Udall that appeared in Smith's Weekly in 1935.

Above: His British War Service Medal from World War One.

Henry James Udall was born in 1888 and grew up in Withington, Manchester, UK where he trained to become a motor mechanic. In 1909 he migrated to Australia and worked in Sydney and Brisbane until the war began, then in October 1914 he tried to enlist in the AIF in Brisbane but was rejected on account of his eyesight.

In March 1915 he travelled down to Melbourne and enlisted again, this time becoming an original member of the 24th Battalion (D Company No 965). He left with them for Egypt in May 1915 on the HMAT Euripides and in August was transferred to the 7th Field Ambulance and served with this unit on Gallipoli from September 1915 until he became sick in early December and was evacuated to a hospital on Lemnos Island.

Back in Egypt, because of his experience as motor mechanic, he was made a driver for the 7th Field Ambulance and in May 1916 went with them to France. He served with the unit on the Western Front until December 1916 then he was transferred to the 1st Ammunition Supply Column, serving with them in France and Belgium until August 1918 when he then went to the 6th Motor Transport Company. He was with this unit when the war ended and stayed in Europe until April 1919 when he returned to Australia on board HMAT Medic.

Back in Australia he became a mining engineer in NSW and married. Unfortunately he had problems coping after the war and the marriage broke down and he left her, later divorcing. He then became a mine manager at Murmungee near Beechworth, Vic before moving to the Northern Territory where he met Frances George whom he married in 1930.

Together they went gold prospecting around Central Australia and became the first people to find payable gold at Tennant's Creek, NT. They later prospected around Mullengandra NSW before retiring to Bendigo where he died in 1951 aged 63. He is buried at the Bendigo Cemetery.

The medal was found in a box of items Coral Suter purchased at a garage sale in the 1980's. Wanting it to go to a good home she recently donated it to the Mt Evelyn RSL to go on display.

Boer War Memorial, Melba Park, Lilydale - Quotes are being sought from suitably qualified heritage trades listed on the Heritage Victoria website to repaint the cast iron tree-guard. Moving the Yarra Ranges Regional Museum's loading bay bollards is also under consideration to further protect the memorial. The Council's arborist is satisfied with the tree's maintenance and condition.

MEMBERS VISIT WW2 VETERAN



Recently members Betty Crittenden and Jan Knox visited another member Irene Jacob in her new home in Franklin, Tasmania.

Irene is a World War Two veteran who served with the WAAF's in England during the war. She recently moved from Tullamore Nursing Home in Montrose to another nursing home in Franklin to be closer to her family.

While visiting Irene they presented her with a special RSL scarf which she appreciated (see picture).

All her old friends back in Victoria wish Irene the best of health and our best wishes.

WELL DONE KEN REED

Last month RSL member Ken Reed was presented with a special award by the Mt Evelyn CFA at their annual award night for an amazing 60 years of service with the fire brigade. 28 years of that service was undertaken as Captain of the Mt Evelyn CFA.

The members of the Mt Evelyn RSL all say well done Ken.

Below: Photo courtesy JJ's Photography



YARRA VALLEY VIETNAM VETERANS DAY 2017



Above: Yarra Valley Vietnam veterans, including our president Roger Boness, march down the Main Street of Warburton.

This year's annual Yarra Valley Vietnam Veterans Day was held at Warburton where a huge crowd turned out to cheer on the march of Vietnam veterans down the Main Street and to hear a grand speech by special guest the Hon Tim Fischer AC, former Vietnam veteran and formerly the deputy Prime Minister.

Below: The Hon Tim Fischer AC



Below: Our Les Kennedy (right) in charge of the Air Cadets.



IN THEIR FOOTSTEPS



Recently two of our members, Peter Paterson and Anthony McAleer (pictured left), travelled to Asia to follow in the footsteps of the 2nd AIF's 8th Division.

They visited all the battlefields and prison camps in Malaysia and Singapore and then travelled along the Thailand side as far as Burma on the former Burma-Thailand Railway.

Highlights included Gemas, the massacre site at Parit Sulong, Changi Prison, the Japanese landing site at Kota Bahru, going just inside of Burma to visit parts of the original railway, Hell fire Pass and a train ride over a small part of the railway. They bought home an original railway spike for the club's collection.

VALE – LLOYD HARRINGTON



The members were sad to learn of the passing of one of our long time members, Lloyd Harrington, on August 3rd, 2017 after a long illness. Lloyd undertook National Service in 1955, with the 15 National Service Training Battalion. He then joined the Citizens Militia Force, serving with the 5th Infantry Battalion (the Victorian Scottish Regiment), between 1955 and 1960. He'd been a member of the Mt Evelyn RSL since the 1990's and for a long time enjoyed our Thursday afternoon socials. **Below: with his wife Lesley at the club**



NEW MT EVELYN RSL STUBBY HOLDERS



MT EVELYN RSL

The Mt Evelyn RSL has had made a batch of stubby holders advertising the club. The design has come up really well and includes an image of Mt Evelyn's War Memorial at the Dawn Service on Anzac Day.

You can collect your stubby holder next time you're at the club for only five dollars.

**ONLY
\$5**

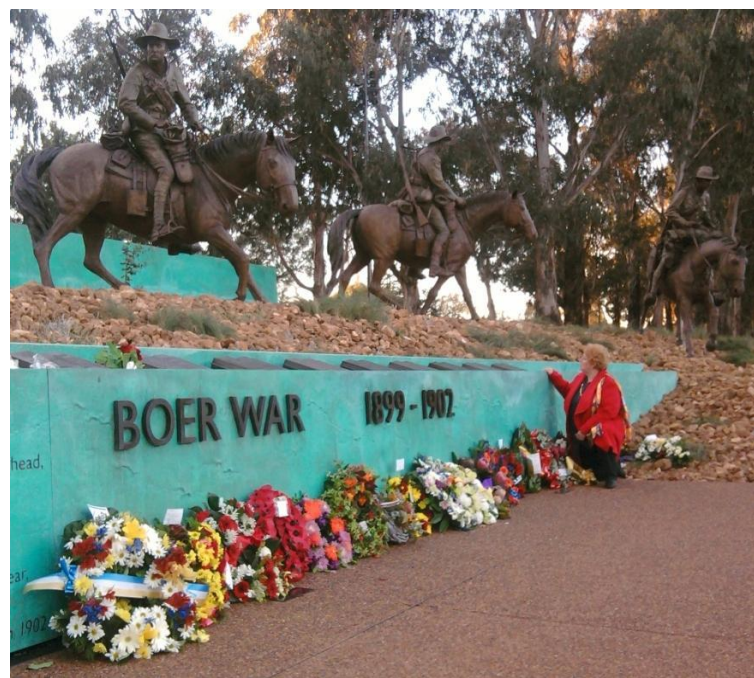
LAUNCH OF BOOK AT RSL

Recently the Mt Evelyn RSL were proud to host the launch of the book 'Who Wouldn't Be a Soldier', the WWI diaries of Sgt Thomas Dykes DCM – 23rd Battalion, AIF. The book was put together by his daughter Elva Cunningham, a former resident of Mt Evelyn, who has kept her father's diaries safe since his passing in 1953, with biography and notations by our secretary Anthony McAleer. The book was launched by Major General Michael O'Brien CSC. See order form opposite.

Photo Below: Major General Michael O'Brien CSC, Elva Cunningham (with her granddaughters), WWI re-enactors Lyn Doensen & Kim Fawkes, Anthony McAleer & Roger Boness (Mt Evelyn RSL) (photo courtesy of Greg Carrick).



BOER WAR MEMORIAL -UNVEILING



From member Marion Stott (pictured left) –

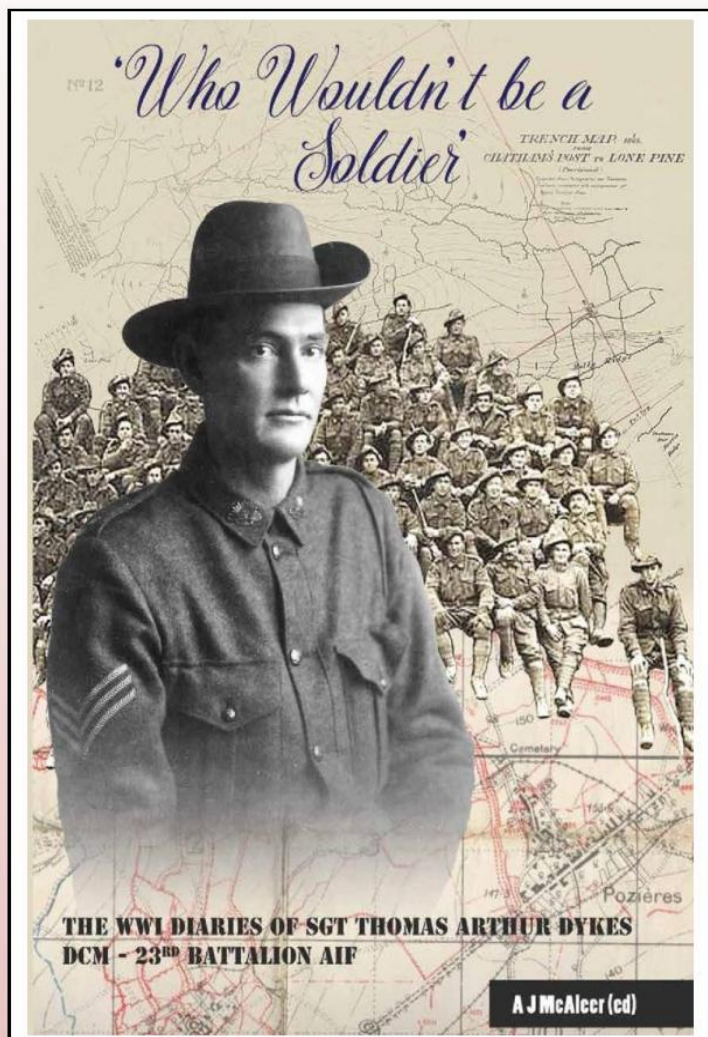
After a culmination of some 20 years of planning and fundraising, finally on Wednesday May 31st, 2017, the 115th Anniversary of the end of the Anglo/Boer War, a magnificent memorial was unveiled at the beginning of Anzac Parade in Canberra. In attendance were 1500 people, like myself & Lloyd, from all around Australia.

Renowned sculptor, Louis Laumen, designed the statues of a scouting party of four men on horseback in different moving poses that makes up the main part of the memorial and the Governor General, Sir Peter Cosgrove AK, MC, officially opened the monument by unveiling a plaque.

My interest in the Boer War stems from the fact my grandfather Pte Frederick Hammond & his younger brother, Pte Stanley Hammond both served in that war for 12 months, returned home & thus here I am.

'Who Wouldn't Be a Soldier'

THE WWI DIARIES OF SGT THOMAS ARTHUR DYKES DCM



If ever you wanted to know what a soldier of the AIF had to endure in the First World War – *this will tell you!*

Sgt Thomas Arthur Dykes spent his war recording his experiences with the AIF's 23rd Battalion in nine small, pocket sized diaries. Published for the first time, they are the raw, uncensored and sometimes graphic account of an infantryman's daily struggle to survive the Gallipoli campaign and the horrors of the Western Front.

At the age of 32, married with 4 children, he volunteered to serve his country in its hour of need. He travelled with his unit to Egypt, survived the sinking of the troopship 'Southland' before spending 9 months in harsh conditions on Gallipoli at Lone Pine until he was evacuated wounded.

From here he is thrown into the killing fields of the Western Front; from Fleurbaix to the Somme, from Ypres to Flers, until he fell victim to the winter of 1916-17 and a severe dose of trench foot. A year out of the line, he returned for the final push of 1918 and was awarded the Distinguished Conduct Medal for his courage and bravery at Mont St Quentin.

ORDER NOW:

Elva Cunningham
PO BOX 161
Traralgon, Vic, 3844

Enquiries:
elva.cunningham2@gmail.com
Ph: 0417154372

Name:

Address:

Post code:

Telephone:

Email:

Copies required _____

Payment for \$_____ is enclosed.

Please make cheques or money orders payable to: Elva Cunningham

Price: \$35 per copy plus \$5.00 postage

Veterans Wellness Programs

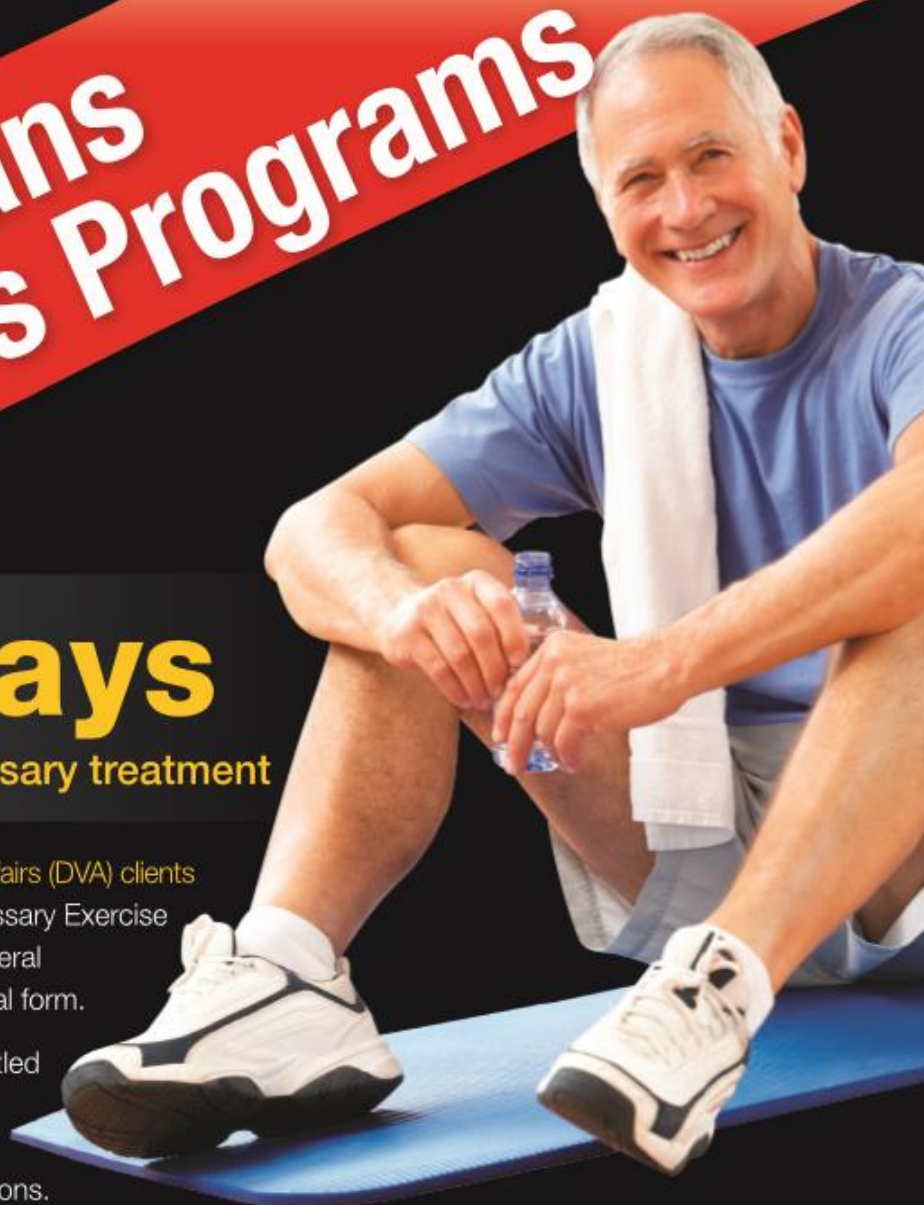
DVA Pays

for the clinically necessary treatment

Entitled Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) clients may be referred for clinically necessary Exercise Physiology treatment by their General Practitioner on a valid D904 referral form.

Gold Card Holders are entitled to clinically necessary treatment covered by DVA's health care arrangements for all health conditions.

White Card Holders are entitled to clinically necessary treatment for an accepted disability ie: an injury or disease accepted by DVA as service related.



Start today and experience the benefits...

- ✓ Increase mobility and balance
- ✓ Reduce and manage age related illness
- ✓ Assist with the management of chronic health conditions, back pain, cardiovascular disease, arthritis, diabetes and more.
- ✓ Exercise Physiology, Occupational Therapy, Dietetic & Physiotherapy services available.
- ✓ Operating out of Gym & Aquatic facilities, also with the option of home visits.

NJF
Exercise Physiologists



AUSTRALIA WIDE

NJF operates out of numerous locations, call to find your nearest location.

Now open in Lilydale
For further information, contact
Lauren O'Dwyer on 0411 121 177

njfwellness.com.au

MONASH'S MILITIA CAMP

LILYDALE - FEBRUARY 1914

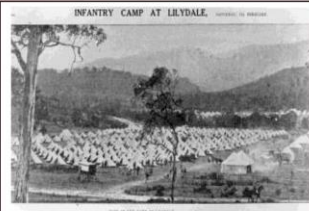
100 years ago John Monash and 3000 citizen soldiers descended on Lilydale and camped for week where the Lilydale Lake is today.

While they were there they were visited by General Sir Ian Hamilton & Richard Williams of RAAF fame and held a huge 'mock battle' near Melba's home in Coldstream.



Why were they there, what did they do, why was the event the most important in Monash's pre-war military career?

To mark the centenary of this remarkable event the Mt Evelyn RSL has published a book that details in words and images the fascinating story of 'Monash's Militia Camp'.



ORDER NOW:

Mt Evelyn RSL
PO BOX 182,
Mt Evelyn, Vic, 3796



Name: _____
Address: _____
Post code: _____
Telephone: _____ Email: _____
Copies required _____ Payment for \$ _____ is enclosed.
Please make cheques or money orders payable to: Mt Evelyn RSL.

Price: \$20 per copy plus \$2.00 postage

A STRETCHER BEARER'S WAR

The Story of Ralph Goode MBE



In 1914 Ralph Goode became the first of many men from Lilydale to enlist in World War One when he joined the 2nd Field Ambulance as a stretcher-bearer. Before he left for service overseas his fiancée gave him two small diaries in which to write down his experiences.

Over the next four years he painstakingly recorded what he went through in Egypt, on Gallipoli and throughout the Western Front. What he created on the pages of those little diaries is an extraordinary day to day account of the horrors and heroism of serving as a stretcher bearer in what they called 'The Great War'.

But his life back home in those decades after the war was to be just as heroic. What he did to cope with the trauma of his war experience would benefit his community greatly and leave a lasting legacy for generations to come.

With a foreword by Dr Michael Cathcart.

ORDER NOW:

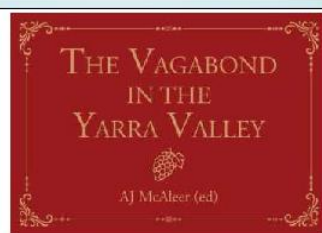
Mt Evelyn RSL
PO BOX 182,
Mt Evelyn, Vic, 3796



Name: _____
Address: _____
Post code: _____
Telephone: _____ Email: _____
Copies required _____ Payment for \$ _____ is enclosed.
Please make cheques or money orders payable to: Mt Evelyn RSL.

Price: \$30 per copy plus \$2.00 postage

THE VAGABOND IN THE YARRA VALLEY



Observation of the Yarra Valley by one of the 19th Century's greatest writers and journalists
The Vagabond.

His complete collection of articles written on the Yarra Valley from 1877 to 1894. Includes details of the early wine industry, a description of travelling here by coach and then by train, reports on the development of the townships and its residents as well as the Steels Creek gold rush.

With a Foreword by:
Christine Fyffe MLA

Introduction by:
Jim Brown

Fully illustrated with images and photos of the Yarra Valley in the 19th Century - many never seen before!

Right: Deschamps Hill, Lilydale from 'The Towers'



ORDER NOW:

Mt Evelyn RSL
PO BOX 182,
Mt Evelyn, Vic, 3796



Name: _____
Address: _____
Post code: _____
Telephone: _____ Email: _____
Copies required _____ Payment for \$ _____ is enclosed.
Please make cheques or money orders payable to: Mt Evelyn RSL.

Price: \$20 per copy plus \$2.00 postage

SCURRY

*THE MAN WHO GOT THEM
SAFELY OFF GALLIPOLI*

SCURRY

On December 8th, 1915 there were 38,500 Australian troops occupying trenches on Gallipoli, facing a larger Turkish force of some 80,000. Twelve days later they had all been evacuated from the Peninsula without the loss of a man and without the enemy

SOLD OUT!



Anzacs were still in their trenches shooting at them when in fact they had long gone. It would earn for him the Distinguished Conduct Medal and the gratitude of those who had got off Gallipoli safely.

But this was only a small part of the Bill Scurry story. From Egypt to Gallipoli and on to the Western Front, where he lost an eye and gained the Military Cross. Then to his post-war days as a soldier settler in Silvan before he was to serve once more in the Second World War.

ORDER NOW:

Mt Evelyn RSL
PO BOX 182
Mt Evelyn, Vic, 3796



Name: _____
Address: _____
Post code: _____
Telephone: _____ Email: _____
Copies required _____ Payment for \$ _____ is enclosed.
Please make cheques or money orders payable to: Mt Evelyn RSL.

Price: \$35 per copy plus \$5.00 postage

Mt Evelyn & Districts Community Bank Branch Bendigo Bank

97371833



**Dr Binay Kumar MRCP MRCGP
FRACGP**

General Practitioner & Cosmetic Physician

Mount Evelyn Medical Clinic

9-11 Wray Cres Mount Evelyn

Ph: (03) 9736 1444

www.mtevelynDoctors.com.au

Take Off Weight Naturally

*Do you want to lose weight
with the help of a supportive,
friendly group of people,
and not have to pay a fortune?*



Rosemont T.O.W.N Club is now
meeting on Tuesday at the
Mt Evelyn RSL Hall, between 10:45am & 12:30pm.
You can just drop by during one of our meetings, or you can
ring one of the following numbers to get more details.

Leader: Joan 97370397 rosemont.townclub@gmail.com

PAUL E O'REILLY

TIMBER FLOORING SPECIALIST

- Floor sanding & Finishing
- Cork, Parquetry supplied & laid

Ph: (03) 9728 2281

Mob: 0412514650



TOSHIDO KARATE

Mt Evelyn RSL

Thursdays
7.00pm to 8.30pm

Self defence & Fitness
Kids & Adults

Ph **0430 903 719**



Mt Evelyn History Group

The Mt Evelyn RSL has a community
partnership with MEHG which means
RSL members can attend guest speaker
talks for free.

Event Days (guest speakers, tours etc):

Third Saturdays on odd months
1.30pm

'Hardy House' –
Mt Evelyn RSL Hall

The Mt Evelyn History Group
Annual membership - \$15

General Meetings:

every third Monday of even months
7.30pm

'Hardy House' –
Mt Evelyn RSL Hall



Kim N Parry | Licensed Estate Agent
& Auctioneer
Justice of the Peace

Max Brown - Yarra Valley

M: 0418 334 416 anytime

P: 03 5964 4900

F: 03 5964 2189

E: kimp@maxbrown.com.au

kimparry@people.net.au

maxbrown.com.au

CROYDON KILSYTH MONTROSE MT EVELYN LILYDALE DISPLAY SEVILLE



LILYDALE WEIGHT CLUB

We meet at the Mt Evelyn
RSL Hall every Tuesday
5.45pm-6.45pm

Everyone welcome!



FITNESS CLASSES

At the RSL Hall
49 Birmingham Rd, Mt Evelyn



STRONG WOMEN.

Vicki provides a social One Hour Stretch & Strength Class to suit a wide range of fitness levels. Personal attention provided & program modified as required to suit individual needs.

Beginners most welcome!! Bring a drink bottle & a smile! Bring a friend! Call in & try it – first class is free!! Weights provided.

Contact: Vicki Walburg

Ph: 9736 2980 Mob: 0408 998 045

vickiwalburg-fitness@yahoo.com.au

Art with Distinction

Custom Framing



- Custom Picture Framing
 - Custom Mats
- Restoration Work
 - Art Supplies

Steve Deakins
(Mt Evelyn RSL Member)

Ph: 9736 3033

Mob: 0429 183021

Shop 7B York Rd, Mt Evelyn

www.artwithdistinction.com.au

Gift vouchers available - great gift idea!!!

JJ's Photography



Ph: 9736 1822

Mob: 0427100818

Shop 7B York Rd

Mt Evelyn

www.jjsphotography.com.au

St John Ambulance

St John always needs enthusiastic, willing and capable people - *just like you* - to assist us in helping our community save lives through First Aid.

The Mt Evelyn Branch meets every
Tuesday night in the RSL Hall.

Call – Diane Dickson on 9736 2490



**Caring
for Life**

The Mt Evelyn RSL always use:

BELL'S
Mt Evelyn's
Quality
Butchers



27 Wray Cres
Ph: 9736 2206

The Mt Evelyn RSL is a proud member of...
The Mt Evelyn Chamber of Commerce

Les Kennedy
is the RSL's representative on the
Chamber of Commerce
– any ideas or issues for the Chamber
ring Les on: 0418 149 558

RALPH PROCTOR DISPLAY

Make sure you check out the Ralph Proctor RAAF display at the 'Mont de Lancey Museum' at Wandin. Ralph was a long time member at the Mt Evelyn RSL & served with the RAAF in Europe during World War Two. He donated his wartime memorabilia to the museum and it is a fascinating collection. Includes items to do with his experiences at D-Day & Arnhem.



Mont de Lancey Museum & Homestead

71 Wellington Rd, Wandin

Open: Wed-Sun 10.30-4.30pm

The Mt Evelyn RSL always uses:

TIGER
SIGNS

*Computer Cut Vinyls

*Digital Prints *Banners *Signs



Contact Dave –

tigersigns@gmail.com

0419 897 134 or 9737 0888

Mt Evelyn Community Market

4th Saturday of each month (Feb - Nov)

9am - 1pm

RSL/Hardy House, 49 Birmingham Rd

Everyone is welcome to join us at the monthly
Mt Evelyn Community Market.

Featuring various stall holders and local businesses.

Fresh produce and an RSL sausage sizzle and devonshire tea.

www.facebook.com/mtevelyncommunitymarket



LEOPOLD MUIR

In commemoration of the centenary of World War One, the Mt Evelyn & Lilydale RSLs have divided the local war memorials between them and will be holding a service on the centenary date of those listed on these memorials who died while on active service. In connection with this will be publishing their biographies in each of our newsletters.....

Leopold Claude Muir was born in 1892 at Brunswick St, North Fitzroy, the eldest son of seven children to Archibald Richmond Muir and Grace Mary Muir.

He was born into a family with a rich military heritage, his grandfather, James Stowe, had served with the British Army in India during the mutiny, in New Zealand during the Maori Wars and he was with the 40th Regiment for the attack on the Eureka Stockade at Ballarat. His grandfather held both long service and good conduct medals and was presented a laurel wreath by Queen Victoria for his service.

Leopold grew up in North Fitzroy and attended the Lee Street State School in Carlton North, where he was a member of the cadets for two years. After he finished his schooling he took up odd jobs for a time before turning his hand to farming, buying a property at Wandin where he grew wheat. He became involved in the community here and was a member of the Wandin Rifle Club and the Wandin Football Club.

When the war first started in 1914 he tried to enlist but was rejected because of the condition of his teeth. Then later, when the casualties starting coming in from the Gallipoli campaign, the authorities weren't as fussy and he was then able to successfully enlist.

On July 25th, 1915 he decided to walk into the recruiting centre at the Melbourne Town Hall and enlist in the AIF. His medical records show he was five feet, eight inches tall and had blue eyes and dark brown hair.

He undertook his initial training at the AIF training camp at Broadmeadows where his was allotted to the 13th reinforcements for the 8th Battalion and he was given the regimental number 4267. He embarked with his unit from Port Melbourne on the HMAT Demosthenes on December 29th, 1915.

The following month he was in camp at Egypt where the AIF were being reorganised in preparation for being sent to the Western Front. In March 1916 the 8th Battalion was sent to France arriving in the Somme Valley area in May.

The 8th Battalion's first major action on the Western Front was at the battle of Pozieres that started on July 23rd, 1916. The battalion was ordered to attack the village and hold the ground which they did.

On July 28th Leopold was dug in with his platoon, in an area near Pozieres where they were under fire from both rifle and artillery fire. Leopold's good mate, Private Cecil James Coe, had been wounded by shell blast and lay exposed in 'No Man's Land'. As a result Leopold volunteered to go and rescue his friend, even though he knew this would put him in danger. As he got out of his shell hole and moved towards his mate he was sadly shot and killed by a sniper. He was twenty-four years old. His friend, Cecil Coe, also died that same day.

Both he and his friend Cecil are remembered on the memorial at Villers Bretonneux in France, they have no known graves.

Sadly though, the Muir family's tragedy wouldn't end there. Later that year their eight year old daughter, Elma Muir, also passed away.

His brother, Archibald Muir, also served in the war with the Field Artillery on the Western Front. He returned to Australia in 1919.

Lest We Forget.

Right: Historian Anthony McAleer talking to Wandin Primary School students about Leopold Muir at the centenary service.

MT EVELYN FURPHYS

- Best wishes to **Stan Beaumont, Bruce Watkinson, Arch Carswell & Betty Crittenden** who spent time in hospital recently.
- We have some good news for the members of the Mt Evelyn RSL. After negotiations with the Shire of Yarra Ranges we have been able to secure a **nine year** lease for our hall and clubrooms. In previous agreements we have only been able to get a five year lease. This is quite a bonus for the club and gives us a bit more stability into the next decade. We thanks the Shire for their support, especially **Michelle Danks**, the shire's Property Leasing Officer, for helping us to secure this.
- Our appeals officer, **John Allwood**, tells us we will have some new items on offer during our Poppy sales in October key rings and wrist bands. We will also be selling our new Mt Evelyn RSL stubby holders.
- We will be having grade 1's from Birmingham Primary School visiting the RSL on Thurs Nov 2nd
- Should you require any assistance or advice - **Deanne Webb** (the Sub-branch's Welfare Officer).
Ph: 0402 783 849



If undeliverable return to:

The Mt Evelyn RSL Sub-Branch
PO Box 182
Mt Evelyn Vic 3796

The Digger's Café

The social club operates the club rooms
every

***Thursday afternoon
from 1.00pm to 4.30pm.***

If you're looking for something to do of a
Thursday afternoon in Mt Evelyn
why not call in for a chat or
a game of pool or indoor bowls.

Club Opening Hours

***Every Friday Night
7.00pm – 10.30pm***

Celebrate the end of the week with a visit to
the clubrooms.

We always have a well stocked fridge and
there is always someone on hand to make a
brew if you so desire.

Friday night football/cricket will be playing
on our big screen TV and don't forget we
also have a pool table.

Editor: Anthony McAleer

Ph: 9736 4384

Email: mtevrsl@gmail.com

*Send me an email me if you want to receive the
newsletter faster via email – it also saves the club
on postage costs!*

RSL Hall Hire

As you would have seen from recent publicity, the
membership of the Mt Evelyn RSL have voted to no
longer hire out our hall to one-off users for functions,
mainly because of the issues we've had with them
have made them more trouble than it's worth.

However we will still hire the hall out to members
for functions and at a discounted rate.

Contact the Secretary at:
mtevrsl@gmail.com

Mt Evelyn RSL Committee

President –

Roger Boness

Ph: 9737 0830

Vice Presidents–

Jim Hurley

Ph: 9876 3750

Iain Townsley

Ph: 9777 1276

Secretary –

Anthony McAleer

Ph: 9736 4384

Treasurer –

John Allwood

Ph: 9736 1551

Welfare Officer –

Deanne Webb

Ph: 0402783849

Padre –

Appeals Officer –

John Allwood

Ph: 9736 1551

Chamber representative –

Les Kennedy

Ph: 0418 149 558

Justice of the Peace –

Kim Parry

Ph: 0418334416

Committee:

Betty Crittenden, Bill Smart, Ron Jones